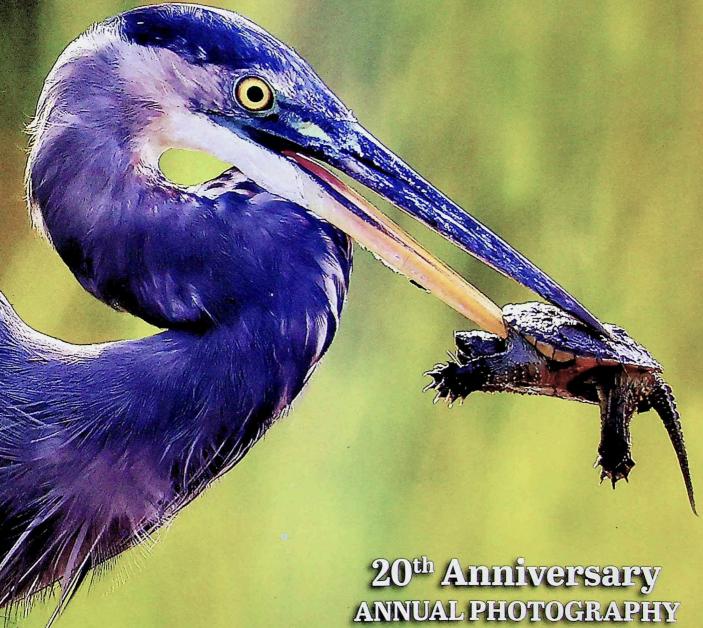
# IRGINIA WILDLIFE

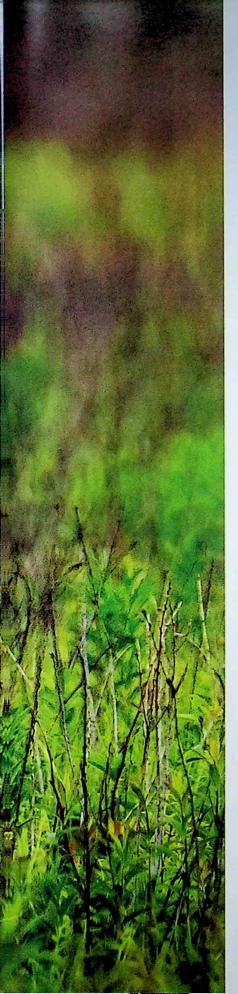
JULY/AUGUST 2023

FOUR DOLLARS



SHOWCASE







JULY/AUGUST 2023 VOL. 84, NO. 4

#### **FEATURES**

- 5 Virginia Fauna
  Native birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and fish.
- Textures and Patterns
  Textures and patterns found in nature.
- 50 Trail Cameras

  Images that reveal the secret lives of our native wildlife.

#### Front Cover

Michael Hundley of Colonial Beach / Looking for subjects to photograph at Monroe Bay in Colonial Beach, Michael saw a great blue heron on a dock attempting to swallow a small snapping turtle. The heron made numerous attempts to swallow the turtle, but kept dropping it. Eventually the lucky turtle fell into the water and escaped! Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm f/4.5-7.1L IS lens, ISO 1000, 1/1250, f/7.1

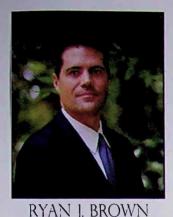
### **Back Cover**

Joshua Rector of Fairfax / Upon learning of a group of short-eared owls hiding in a grassy field, Joshua grabbed his camera and went looking for them. After spotting the owls, he hunkered down and snuck through the grass until he saw these golden eyes staring at him. Awesome! Canon EOS 5D Mark IV DSLR camera, EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 1000, 1/500, f/5.6

## Left

Ann Fulcher of Midlothian / A vigilant white-tailed doe with her fawn at Big Meadows in Shenandoah National Park. Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 contemporary lens, ISO 1000, 1/400, f/7.1

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Photographs are identified by the name of photographer, their city of residence/caption information, camera and lens used to capture the image, ISO, shutter speed, and aperture exposure setting.



**Executive Director** 

his issue marks the 20th anniversary of the annual Photography Showcase Issue of Virginia Wildlife. The March 2004 issue of the magazine announced the winners of the first Virginia Wildlife Annual Photography Contest, showcasing a few winners each from eight different categories, including "Cold and Clammy Critters" and "Marvelous Mammals." It was an idea that evolved initially from Lynda Richardson's Photo Tips column, growing first to a few pages in the magazine, and then maturing into the first full-issue Photography Contest Showcase in 2004. And what an idea it was!

For 20 years, we've been thrilled to publish some of the most stunning photography that Virginia's photographers—amateur and professional—have produced.

A lot has changed over that time. In the beginning, entries were required to be in slide or print format; now, our submissions are all online with digital files. The 2004 issue featured 54 images; this year's showcases 183 images!

In March 2004, Virginia Wildlife used a 36-page format each issue; now, the normal bi-monthly issues are 48 pages. For a number of years, we expanded to 52 pages for the Photography Showcase in an effort to accommodate the growing numbers of entries—this year we've gone even further and are printing 56 pages of images for your viewing delight!

In 2013, the Photography Contest Showcase moved to the July/August issue, as Virginia Wildlife moved to a bi-monthly schedule. At that time, Lynda, the contest chair, wrote in the Director's Letter: "All of these images taken around our great state prove that incredible beauty and diversity surround us if we care to look for it." It's a sentiment that this issue proves year after year! At that time, the issue was still a judged contest, with first, second, and third places published along with a few honorable mentions.

In 2016, that also changed, as then-editor Sally H. Mills announced in the Director's Letter that the judging and contest element of the issue had been removed, allowing the staff to choose the finest images submitted, but without assigning placings or restricting the numbers beyond space limitations. "As usual, the breadth of submissions reminds me there is no shortage of energy or insight among the pool of artists who continue to tote their favorite camera equipment into the woods, up a mountain trail, or along the streams and coastlines of this remarkable state," Sally wrote.

This year, we have a new chance for Photography Showcase entrants to see their work in print. Virginia Wildlife staff will choose one photo submitted for the 2024 Virginia Wildlife Photography Showcase Issue to be the cover of the 2025 edition of the iconic Virginia Wildlife calendar! Check out the inside back cover for details on this new opportunity.

In his Director's Letter in that 2004 Photography Showcase Issue, former Executive Director William L. Woodfin, Jr., closed with a statement that rings true 20 years later. "Probably one of the best-known outdoor photographers in America, Ansel Adams, put it best when he said: 'There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer.' We hope that you, the viewer, will enjoy and appreciate what you see."

So, this year brings more pages, more photos, and more opportunities. It'll be fun to see what the next 20 years brings for the Photography Showcase Issue!



#### MISSION STATEMENT

Conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitat for the benefit of present and future generations. Connect people to Virginia's outdoors through boating, education, fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, and other wildlife-related activities. Protect people and property by promoting safe outdoor experiences and managing human-wildlife conflicts.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Glenn Youngkin, Governor

SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES Travis Voyles

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES Rvan J. Brown, Executive Director

> **HUNTING & FISHING** LICENSE FEES

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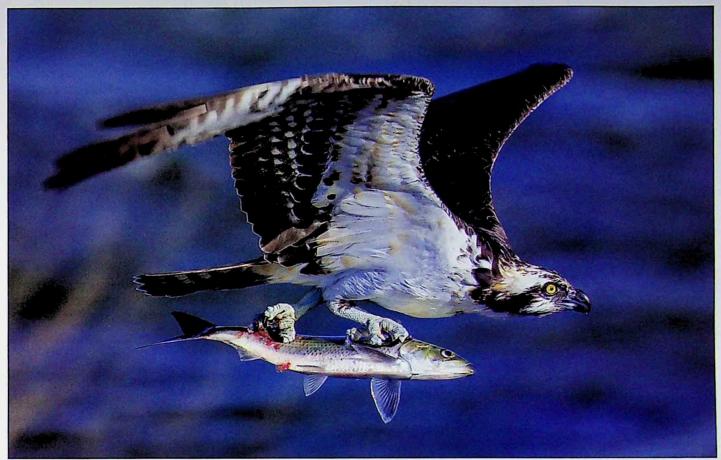
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www.virginiawildlife.gov



Virginia Fauna — Native birds, mammals (game and nongame), reptiles, amphibians, insects, and fish.



Barbara Houston, Quinton / Osprey clutching a shad Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF800mm f/11.0 IS STM lens, ISO 640, 1/800, f/11.0

Taking pictures is savoring life intensely, every hundredth of a second.

-Marc Riboud

As Art Director Lynda Richardson and I watched the entries pour in for this year's Annual Photography Showcase issue, we knew we needed more pages. This year, Virginia photographers submitted a total of 1,444 photo entries—an almost 20 percent increase over last year's total number submitted. Notably, 422 photographers submitted entries compared to last year's 262 different photographers. Well done, Virginia! Entries included 979 images in Virginia Fauna, 359 in Textures and Patterns, and 106 in Trail Cameras.

Famous photographer Diane Arbus said: "I tend to think of the act of photographing, generally speaking, as an adventure. My favorite thing is to go where I've never been." Every year, we look forward to seeing where Virginia's photographers are going and how they're adventuring. We're grateful to them for sharing their work, and we're lucky to be able to share these images with our readers. Now turn the pages and enjoy! – *Molly Kirk, Editor* 



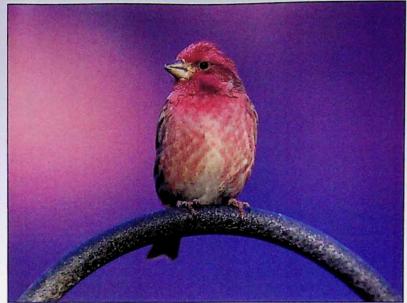
Patricia Davis, Mechanicsville / Prothonotary warblers attend to their nest in a cocktail peanut can Olympus OM-1 mirrorless camera, M.Zuiko ED300mm f/4.0 IS Pro lens + MC-1.4X, ISO 1600, 1/1000, f/5 6



Henry Day, Fredericksburg / Cedar waxwings Canon EOS Rebel T8i DSLR camera, SP150-600mm f/5-6.3 Di VC lens, ISO 4000, 1/800, f/9.0



Rebecca Perry, West Point / Red-bellied woodpecker Canon R5 mirrorless camera, EF100-400mm lens, ISO 5000, 1/1250, f/7.1



Howard Wu, Herndon / Purple finch Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, EF300mm f/2.8L lens +1.4X, ISO 320, 1/800, f/4.0



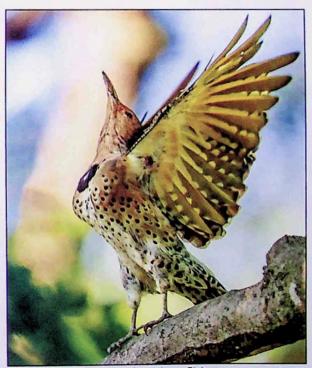
Carol Annis, Toano / Juvenile Eastern phoebe with a dragonfly Sony ILCE-9 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 2000, 1/1400, f/6.3



Joseph Brown, Christiansburg / Ruby-throated hummingbird Nikon D500 DLSR camera, 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 4000, 1/1000, f/8.0



James Tomasek, Fredericksburg / Downy woodpecker eating aphids, Canon EOS R7 mirrorless camera, RF100-400mm f/5.6-8 lens, ISO 8000, 1/1000, f/8.0



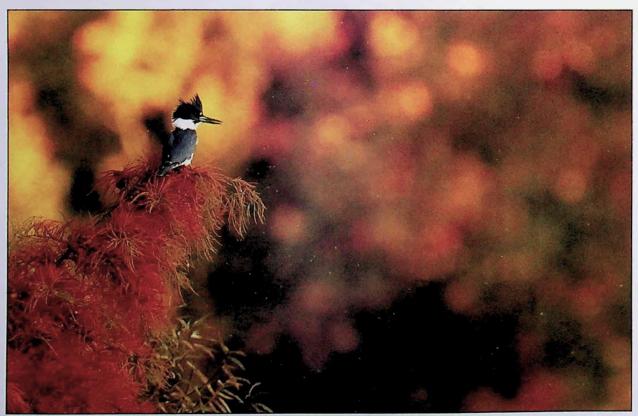
Mary Prochnow, Reston / Northern flicker Sony ILCE-1 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 2000, 1/1600, f/5.6-6.3



Laurie O'Donnell, Round Hill / Female red-winged blackbird with a moth, Canon R5 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm f/4.5-7.1L lens, ISO 3200, 1/1600, f/7.1



Ann Fulcher, Midlothian /Carolina chickadee Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 500, 1/1000, f/6.3



Brett Sams, Chesterfield / Belted kingfisher
Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 6400, 1/1250, f/6.3



Mohammad Amir, Great Falls / Northern parula Nikon D850 DSLR camera, 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 4500, 1/650, f/5.6



Mary Prochnow, Reston / Male belted kingfisher Nikon D500 DSRL camera, FE200-500mm f/5.6 lens ISO 100, 1/1600, f/5.6



Randy Streufert, Lorton / Northern cardinal Nikon D45 DSLR camera, 600mm f/4.0 lens, ISO 250, 1/500, f/6.3

It is not only fine feathers that make fine birds.

-Aesop



Lisa Watkins, Mechanicsville / Ruby-throated hummingbird, Nikon 750D DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm Iens, ISO 320, 1/2000, f/5.6



Marc Mains, Spotsylvania / Red-winged blackbird in courtship display Sony ILCE-7RM4 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G lens, ISO 500, 1/320, f/6.3



Cindy Walker, Toano / Red-eyed vireo eating magnolia berries Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 L IS lens, ISO 1000, 1/2000, f/8.0



Una Davenhill, Virginia Beach / Pileated woodpecker eating black tupelo berries, Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, 300mm f/4.0, ISO 1600, 1/1250, f/4.5



Caroline Prevost, Chesapeake / Female black-and-white warbler, Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm, f/4.5-7.1 L IS lens, ISO 500, 1/1000, f/5.6



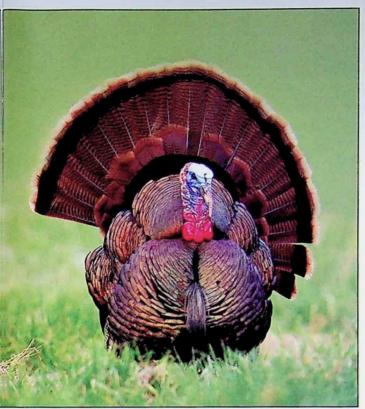
John Smith III, Spotsylvania / Female belted kingfisher
Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 1100, 1/1600, f/6.3



Carol Annis, Toano / Red-bellied woodpecker and trumpet vine Sony ILCE-9 mirrorless camera, FE200-600 f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 640, 1/1250, f/8.0



Ann Cline, Staunton / Grasshopper sparrow with a grasshopper Canon Powershot SX70 HS camera, ISO 125, 1/400, f/6.5



Mike Roberts, Bedford / Wild turkey Canon EOS 5D Mark IV DSLR camera, EF600mm f/4L IS II lens, ISO 200, 1/125, f/4.0



Ping Sun, Lorton / Ruby-throated hummingbird Sony ILCE-7ME mirrorless camera, FE100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 GM OSS lens, ISO 1000, 1/2000, f/6.3



Mark Dlugonski, Dahlgren / Wild turkey
Canon 7D Mark II DSLR camera, EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II +
1.4XIII, ISO 2500, 1/400, f/7.1



Betsy Brown, Port Haywood / Clapper rail Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, RF800mm f/11 IS STM lens +RF1.4X, ISO 12800, 1/1000, f/16



Christine Riebe, West Point / Common snipe Nikon Coolpix P510 camera, ISO 400, 1/400, f/5.9



Jason Bradshaw, Fredericksburg / Bald eagles fighting over territory Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 500mm lens, ISO 2500, 1/3200, f/5.6



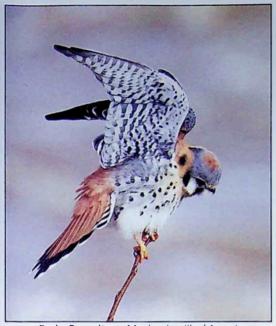
Allen Melson, Fredericksburg / Bald eagle chasing an osprey Sony ILCE-7M3 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens +1.4X, ISO 640, 1/2000, f/11.0



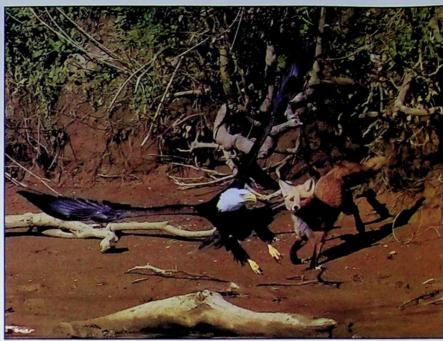
Kathi Hunter, Spring Grove / Osprey fighting over territory Nikon D850 DSLR camera, 200-500mm lens, ISO 800, 1/2000, f/5.6



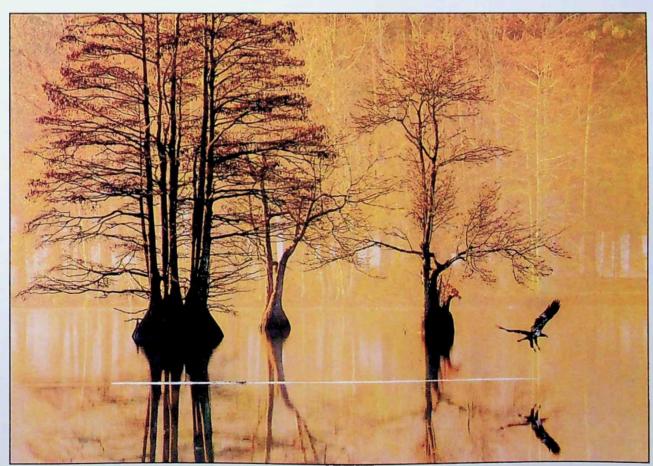
Michael Hundley, Colonial Beach / Bald eagle Canon R5 mirrorless camera, 600mm lens, ISO 400, 1/800, f/8.0



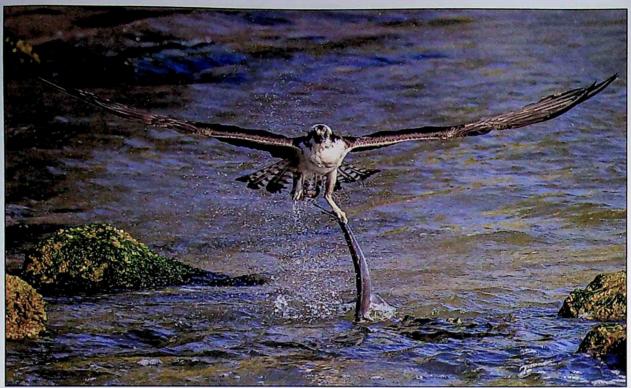
Parks Roundtrey, Mechanicsville / American kestrel, Nikon Z 9 mirrorless camera, AF-S Nikkor 500mm /5.6E PF ED VR lens, ISO 640, 1/500, f/13.0



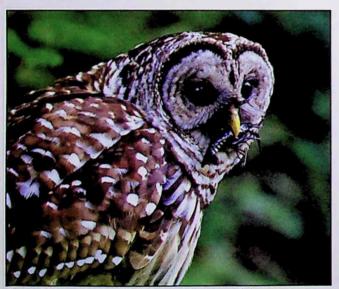
Stephen Olson, Fredericksburg / Bald eagle reacts to a red fox ambush Nikon D500 DSLR camera, AF-S VR Zoom- Nikkor 200-400mm f/4G IF ED II lens, ISO 360, 1/2000, f/8.



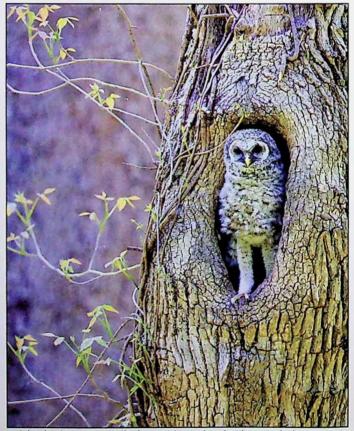
Luca Pfeiffer, Charlottesville / Immature bald eagle Nikon Z6 II mirrorless camera, VR300mm f/2.8G lens, ISO 4000, 1/3200, f/5.6



Wendy Woodell, Newport News / An ambitious osprey grabs a large shad Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF800mm f/11 IS STM lens, ISO 4000, 1/3200, f/11



Dan Whiting, Portsmouth / Barred owl with crayfish Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1600, 1/50, f/5.6



Michael Fahey, Centreville / Young barred owl at its nest hole Canon EOS R5, EF600mm f/4L IS II lens, ISO 4000, 1/2000, f/4.5

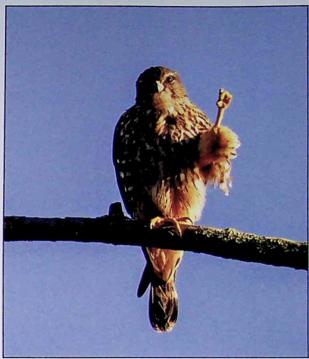


Barbara Houston, Quinton / Immature red-shouldered hawk Sony ILCE-1 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 OSS lens, ISO 500, 1/1600, f/7.1

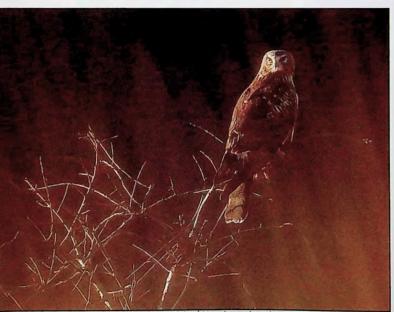


For me, the camera is a sketch book, an instrument of intuition and spontaneity.

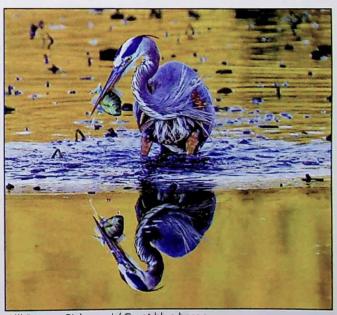
-Henri Cartier-Bresson



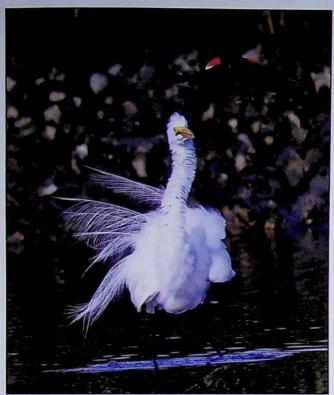
Simon Alam, Fairfax / A merlin expresses its opinion Sony ILCE-6300 mirrorless camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM/Contemporary 015 lens, ISO 320, 1/800, f/6.3



Darren Hutchinson, Alexandria / Northern harrier Canon EOS-1D X Mark II DSLR camera, EF600mm f/4.0L IS lens +1.4X, ISO 3200, 1/2500, f/6.3



Bill Draper, Richmond / Great blue heron Sony ILCE-7M3 mirrorless camera, FE200-600 f/5.6-6.3 OSS lens, ISO 6400, 1/2000, f/11.0



Clifton Seney, Virginia Beach / A red-winged blackbird harrasses a great egret that was too close to its nest
Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 500, 1/2500, f/5.6

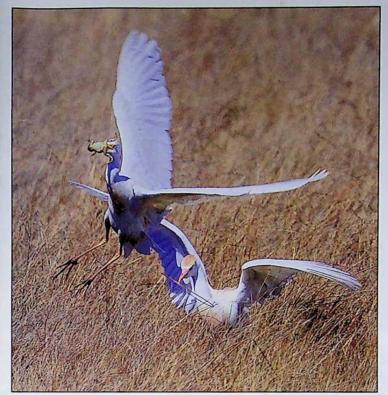


Pamela Miller, Ashburn / Great blue heron Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 720, 1/8000, f/5.6

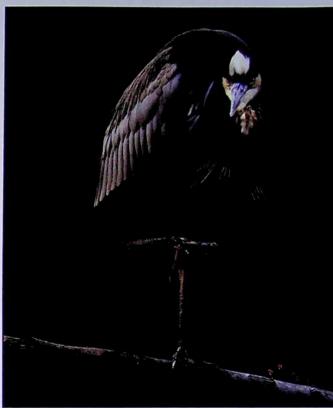


Erika Rebecca Belsaas, Charlottesville / Great blue heron glides across the Rivanna Reservoir Nikon Z 9 mirrorless camera, VR600mm f/4.0 G lens with FTZ adapter, ISO 3200, 1/1000, f/4.0





Laura Koubsky, Virginia Beach / Cattle egrets fight over a toad Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 L IS lens, ISO 160, 1/800, f/7.1



George Garrett, Ashland / Great blue heron Sony ILCE-7M3 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 1000, 1/640, f/8.0



Brett Sams, Chesterfield / Green heron Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 450, 1/400, f/6.3



Edward Episcopo, Fredericksburg / A territorial dispute between great blue herons Nikon Z6 II mirrorless camera, VR150-600mm f/5-6.3E lens, ISO 2000, 1/3200, f/9.0



Randy Streufert, Lorton / A disagreement between tundra swans Nikon Z 9 mirrorless camera, VR 600mm f/4G lens, ISO 1250, 1/8000, f/5.6



Elaine Starr, Alexandria / Female hooded merganser with a duckling, Nikon Z7 II mirrorless camera, 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1100, 1/1000, f/5.6

# Until you spread your wings, you'll have no idea how far you can fly. -Napoleon Bonaparte



Glen Mitchell, Bent Mountain / Ring-necked duck Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, EF500mm f/4.0L IS lens, ISO 400, 1/1250, f/4.5



Tim Hostert, Alexandria / Female hooded merganser with her brood of ducklings Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, 200-500mm f/5.6E ED VR lens, ISO 4000, 1/5000, f/8.0





Reuben Rohn, Virginia Beach / Buffleheads
Canon EOS 90D DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5.0-6.3 DG OS HSM/Contemporay 015 lens, ISO 5000, 1/2500, f/16



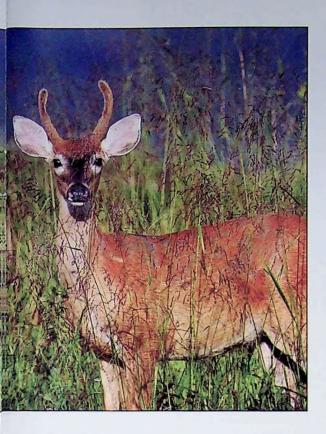
Pam Conley, Bristol / White-tailed deer Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 1100, 1/640, f/6.3

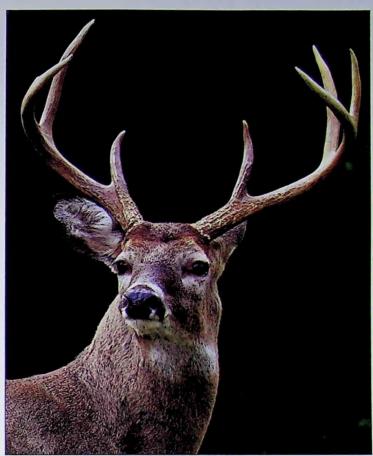


James Morgan, Daleville / White-tailed deer Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 1250, 1/1250, f8.5



George Garrett, Ashland / White-tailed deer Sony ILCE-7ME mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 250, 1/1600, f/7.1





Betty Sue Cohen, Virginia Beach / White-tailed deer Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikkor 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1250, 1/1000, f/5.6



Erik Brito, Fredericksburg / White-tailed deer Nikon Z9 mirrorless camera, VR 500mm f/4E lens, ISO 640, 1/1600, f/6.3



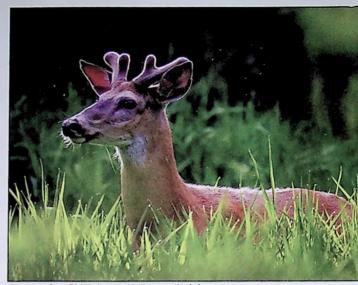
Jason Bradshaw, Fredericksburg / White-tailed deer Nikon D850 DSLR camera, 500mm lens, ISO 4000, 1/800, f/5.6



Dorothy Kray, Middleburg / Red fox kit Canon EOS 77D DSLR camera, EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 160, 1/200, f/5.6



Jordan Van Dyke, Richlands / Elk Canon PowerShot SX420 digital camera, no other data available



Stacy Aylor, Phillipi, WV / White-tailed deer Canon EOS 90D DSLR camera, SP150-600mm f/5-6.3 Di VC lens, ISO 3200, 1/1000, f/6.3



Ted Jurkuta, Manakin Sabot / White-tailed deer Olympus OM-1 mirrorless camera, M.Zuiko 300mm f/4 IS PRO lens, ISO 640, 1/500, f/4

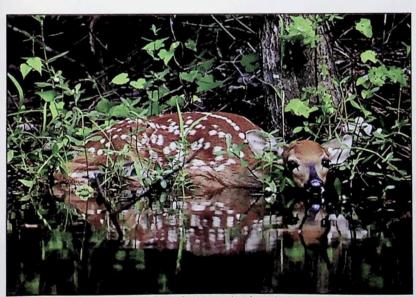
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All my life through, the new sights of Nature made me rejoice like a child.

-Marie Curie



Jamie Wick, Williamsburg / Elk
Canon EOS 6D Mark II DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM lens contempory 015, ISO 800, 1/1000, f/6.3



Jennifer Zirkle, Virginia Beach / White-tailed fawn hiding Nikon D5600 DSLR camera, 70-300mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 9000, 1/1250, f/6.3



Terry Moore, Newport News / Red fox with two rails Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, EF500mm f/4L IS II lens +1.4X III, ISO 1600, 1/1250, f/5.6



Parks Roundtrey, Mechanicsville / Red fox with kit Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 800, 1/1600, f/11



Donnie Goodrich, Williamsbug / Gray fox Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF-100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 L IS lens, ISO 1250, 1/1000, f/7.1



Alan Mindlin, Fredericksburg / Red fox plays with its meal, a muskrat Olympus EM1Mark III mirrorless camera, 300mmm f/4 lens, ISO 1000, 1/800, f/4.5





Jennifer Ashley, Oakton / Courting red foxes Canon EOS RP mirrorless camera, 150-600 f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM Contempory 015 lens, ISO 10,000, 1/640, f/6.3



Ping Sun, Lorton / River otter plays with a leaf Canon PowerShot G3X camera. ISO 800, 1/100, f/5.6



Dan Whiting, Portsmouth / River otters in the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1600, 1/160, f/5.6



Danielle Brigida, Falls Church / River otter plays with a fish Sony ILCE-7RM4 camera, 200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 400, 1/500, f/6.3



Constance Owen, Virginia Beach / Raccoon adult with kit Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF800mm f/11 IS STM lens, ISO 10,000, 1/640, f/11.0



David Beck, Fredericksburg / Juvenile opossum Apple iPhone 11



Eric Pritchett, Staunton / Bobcat in Highland County
Canon EOS Rebel T6 DSLR camera, No other data included in file



Erik Brito, Fredericksburg / Gray squirrel with kit Nikon Z9 mirrorless camera, VR500mm f/4E lens, ISO 2200, 1/500, f/4.0



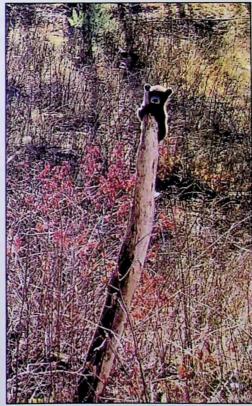
Flo Womacks, Virginia Beach / Harbor seal spotted at Chincoteague Nikon D5200 DSLR camera, 18-400mm f/3.5-6.3 Di II VC lens, ISO 720, 1/1000, f/6.3



Cindy Hamilton, Virginia Beach / Raccoon foraging at Back Bay Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, RF100-500 f/4.5-7.1L IS lens, ISO 1000, 1/2000, f/7.1



Sarah Campbell, Abingdon / Black bear swims across Beartree Lake in Damascus Nikon D3500 DSLR camera, 70-300mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 1600, 1/160, f/6.3



Jason Hockett, Chesterfield / Black bear cub Apple iPhone 13 Pro Back, ISO 32, 1/125, F/2.8



Callie Evans, Beaverdam / Eastern black rat snake Canon EOS 20D DSLR camera, 24-105mm lens, ISO 100, 1/50, f/4.0

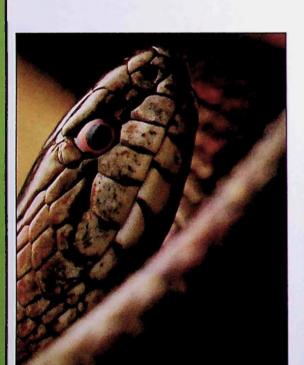


Patricia May, Harrisonburg / Eastern black rat snake Canon PowerShot SX60 HS camera, ISO 800, 1/50, f/5.6

# 66

Beauty is, after all, in the mind (and heart and soul...) of the beholder.

- Michael Kenna



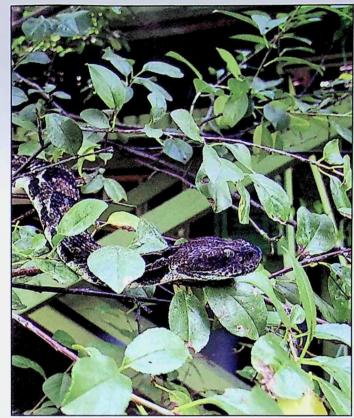
Jacob Hinton, Hayes / Northern watersnake Canon EOS R mirrorless camera, RF100mm f/2.8L Macro IS lens, ISO 100, 1/250, f/8.0



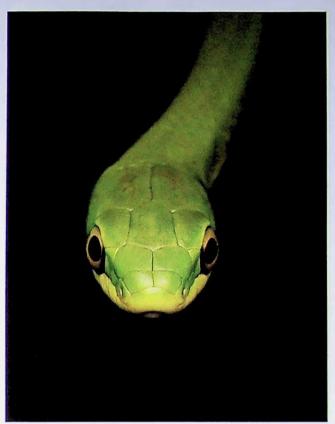
Jason Crawley, Chesapeake / Rough green snake and friend Canon EOS 80D DSLR camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM/ Contemporary lens, ISO 500, 1/800, f/6.3



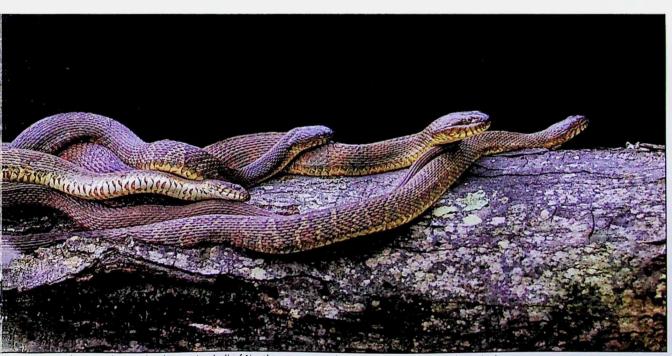
Luana Bond, Williamsburg / Northern watersnake Nikon 5600 DSLR camera, 70-300mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 560, 1/1000, f/6.3



Trina Heiser, Winchester / Timber rattlesnake in a tree Apple iPhone 11, ISO 100, 1/120, f/1.8



Mar Acevedo, Springfield / Rough greensnake spotted at Huntley Meadows Park, Olympus E-M1 Mark III mirrorless camera, M.Zuiko 60mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 250, 1/250, f/9



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / A mating ball of Northern watersnakes seen at Huntley Meadows Park Canon EOS 7D Mark II camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM/Contemporary 015 lens, ISO 1250, 1/2000, f/5.6



Chris Cowan, Madison / Eastern garter snake Canon EOS 7D DSLR camera, 100-400mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 160, 1/250, f6.3



Danielle Brigida, Falls Church / Green treefrog Sony ILCE-1 mirrorless camera, FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 G OSS Iens, ISO 1250, 1/500, f/6.3



John Alexander, Independance / Ring-necked snake, Android Phone



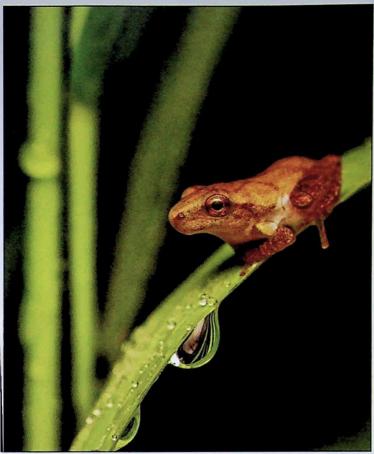
Leo Meire, Richmond / Eastern painted turtle Olympus E-M1X DSLR camera, M60mm f/2.8 Macro lens, ISO 800, 1/30, f/5.6



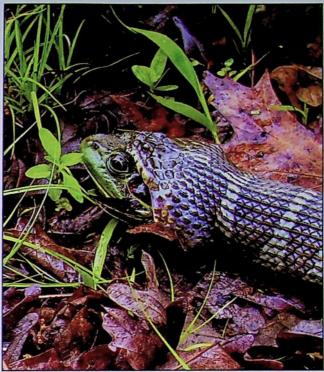
Suzanne Wright, West Point / Eastern painted turtles Nikon CoolPix P900 camera, ISO 800, 1/125, f/6.5



Robin Eshleman, Dyke / Eastern American toad Canon EOS-1D X Mark II DSLR camera, EF400 f/5.6L lens, ISO 2500, 1/640, f/8.0



Mar Acevedo, Springfield / Juvenile spring peeper Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, 105mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 100 1/320, f/10



Larry D. Tipton, Midlothian / Northern watersnake with a frog Apple iPhone 11 Pro, ISO 125, 1/100, f/8.0

66

It is up to the viewers to understand that it is worth preserving this natural world as it is important for the survival of our world and thus for the generations to come.

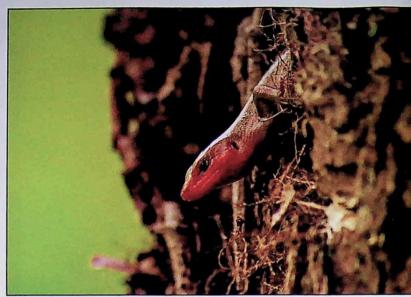
– Piet Haaksma



Craig Hill, Williamsburg / Green frog Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 28-300mm f/3.5-6.3 Di VC PZD lens, ISO 800, 1/1000, f/6.3



Elaine Starr, Alexandria / Green treefrog with friend Nikon Z9 mirrorless camera, 500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1250, 1/1600, f/8.0



Matt Swift, Crozier / Unidentified male skink Canon EOS RP mirrorless camera, 70-300mm f/4-5.6 APO DG Macro lens, ISO 800, 1/640, f/5.6



Daniel Carrier, Charlottesville / Eastern red-spotted newts in red eft phase Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 lens, ISO 720, 1/60, f/4.5



Sydney Haney, Elkton / Unidentified skink Fujifilm X-T2 mirrorless camera, 7artisans 60mm f/2.8 V.2 APS-C Macro lens, ISO 640, 1/750, f/8.0





Linda Ashley, Alexandria / Green treefrog Sony Cyber-Shot RX10 IV camera, ISO 250, 1/250, f/4.0



Jean Wibbens, Goode / Eastern red-spotted newt in red eft phase Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, EF100mm f/2.8 L Macro lens, ISO 1250, 1/60, f/4.5



Maeve Coker, Dunnsville / Eastern painted turtle Sony DSC-HX400V camera, ISO 320, 1/250, f/5.6



Mary Prochnow, Reston / American bullfrog Sony ILCE-1 mirrorless camera, FE200-600 f/5.6-6.3 G OSS lens, ISO 1000, 1/500, f/6.3



Cheryl Shank, Dayton / Fairy shrimp with eggs Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, MP-E65mm f/2.8 1-5X Macro lens, ISO 100, 1/60, f/11.0



Adam Bajo-Walker, Roanoke / Juvenile riverweed darter Olympus TG-6 Underwater camera, 25-100mm f/4.9 lens, ISO 800, 1/100, f/3.8





Jamie Wulfekuhle-Zaweski, Colonial Heights / Cicada emerges from shell Canon EOS 6D DSLR camera, 24-70mm, f2.8 lens, ISO 640, 1/200, f6.3



Mary Catherine Miguez, Norfolk / Bumblebees Sony A1 mirrorless camera, FE90mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 1250, 1/800, f/8.0



Sydney Haney, Elkton / Red velvet mite Fujifilm X-T2 digital camera, 60mm f/2.8 Macro lens, ISO 6400, 1/200, f/10.0



Michael Smith, Glen Allen / Brook trout Olympus TG-6 underwater camera, 25-100mm, f/4.9 lens, ISO 160, 1/125, f/2.8



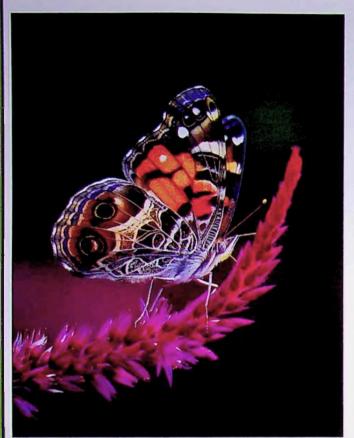
Noah Li, Yorktown / Ambush bug Sony ILCE-7RM2 mirrorless camera, ISO 100, 1/200, f/not recorded



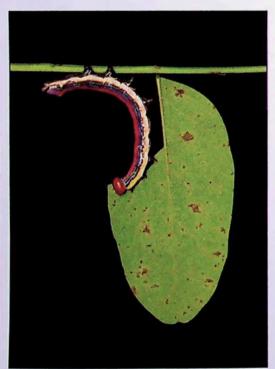
Tibor Molnar, Alexandria / Six-spotted tiger beetle Olympus E-M1 Mark II mirrorless camera, M.Zuiko ED60mm f/2.8 Macro lens, ISO 100, 1/50, f/5.6



Brittany Bajo-Walker, Roanoke / Wavy-rayed lampmussel in lure found in the Clinch River system Olympus TG-6 underwater camera, 25-100mm, f/4.9 lens, ISO 100, 1/160, f/3.2



Edward Episcopo, Fredericksburg / Common buckeye Nikon Z6 2 mirrorless camera, VR150-600mm f/5-6.3E lens, ISO 3200, 1/1250, f/10.0



Matthew Huntley, Fredericksburg / Black-spotted prominent caterpillar Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Venus Optics Laowa 100mm f/2.8 Ultra Macro lens 2X, ISO 200, 1/125, f/11.0



Denis Bakchinov, Midlothian / Saddleback caterpillar Sony A7R4 mirrorless camera, Venus Optics Laowa 100mm f/5.6 Macro lens, ISO 50, 1/125, f/8.0



Kathi Hunter, Spring Grove / Common American grass spider Nikon D7200 DSLR camera, 40mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 200, 1/800, f/5 0



Garland Kitts, Roanoke / Halloween pennant Sony ILCE-1 mirrorless camera, FE600mm f/4.0 GM lens, ISO 640, 1/3200, f/4.0



Gary Powell, Charlottesville / Silvery checkerspot Nikon D7200 DSLR lens, 60mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 640, 1/60, f/10.0



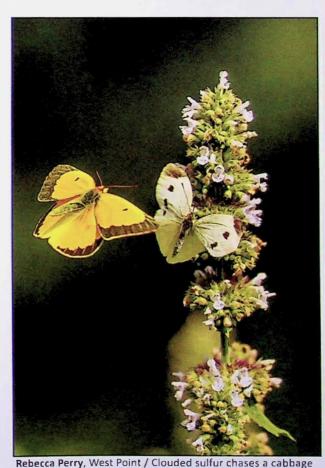
Tibor Molnar, Alexandria / Emerald jumping spider
Olympus E-M1 Mark II mirrorless camera, M.Zuiko ED 60mm f/2.8 Macro
lens, ISO 200, 1/200, f/9.0



Henry Day, Fredericksburg / Hummingbird clearwing Canon EOS Rebel T8i DSLR camera, SP150-600mm f/5-6.3 Di VC G2 lens, ISO 2500, 1/4000, f/7.1



Denis Bakchinov, Midlothian / Arrowhead spider Sony A7R4 mirrorless camera, Venus Optics Laowa 100mm f/5.6 Macro lens, ISO 50, 1/125, f/11.0

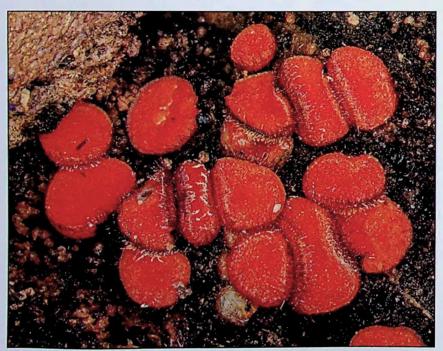


patch butterfly
Canon R5 mirrorless camera, EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS lens, ISO 800, 1/4000, f/5.6

## **Textures and Patterns** — Abstract designs, textures, and patterns found in nature.



Aidan McCarthy, Fairfax / Salamander eye Canon EOS 80D DSLR camera, EF100mm f/2.8L Macro IS lens, ISO 400, 1/50, f/13.0



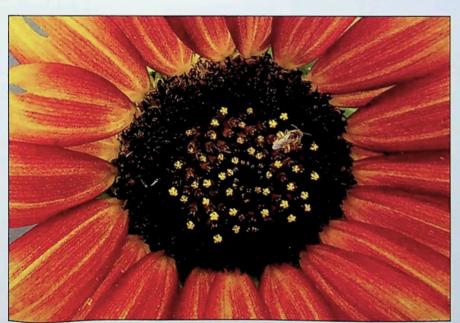
Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / Lichens Canon EOS 70D DSLR camera, 105mm lens, ISO 320, 1/125, f/20.0



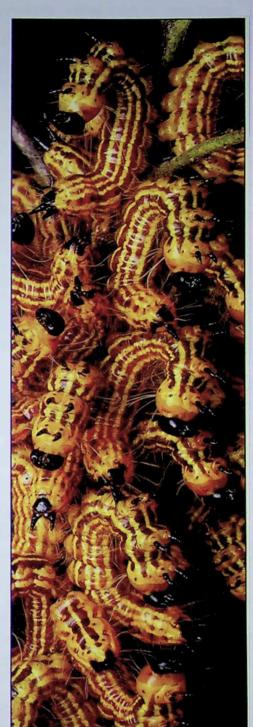
David Hickman, Kents Store / Ladybugs Sony A900 DSLR camera, 105mm lens, ISO 200, 1/125, f/5.6



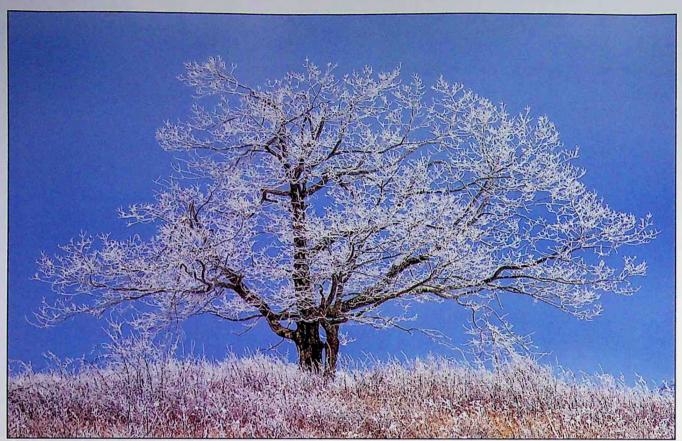
Bill Niven, Chesapeake / Hoarfrost on leaves Canon PowerShot SX60HS camera, ISO 400, 1/100, f/8.0



Inamay Kennedy, Stony Creek / Sunflower Nikon D5600 DSLR camera, 70-300mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 100, 1/250, f/6.3



Tibor Molnar, Alexandria / Drexel's Datana moth caterpillars in a protective mass Nikon D810 DSLR camera, Laowa 100mm 2X Macro lens, ISO 320, 1/200, f/11



Grace Croonenberghs, Maidens / Hoarfrost on a tree Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, EF24-105mm f4.0L IS lens, ISO 200, 1/320, f/6.3



Carol Annis, Toano / Ice Sony ILCE-1 DSLR camera, 200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 lens, ISO 800, 1/1000, f/10



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / Cracked creek ice at Foxstone Park Apple iPhone 12 Pro Max, ISO 32, 1/696, f/1.6



Nat White, Hamilton / Hoarfrost on a leaf Nikon Z9 mirrorless camera, 70-200mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 400, 1/80, f/11.0



Cheryl Shank, Dayton / River ice Canon EOS R5 mirrorless camera, 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM lens, ISO 200, 1/4, f/29.0

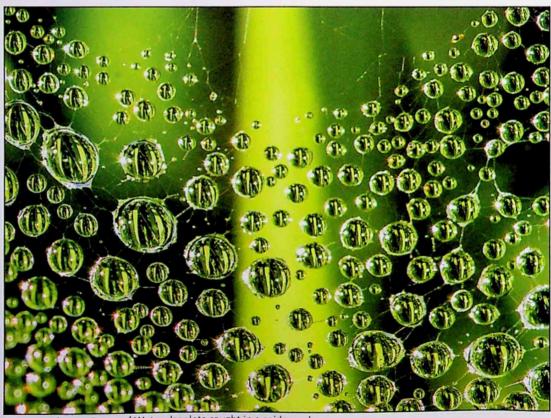


Much is missed if we have eyes only for the bright colors.

-Eliot Porter



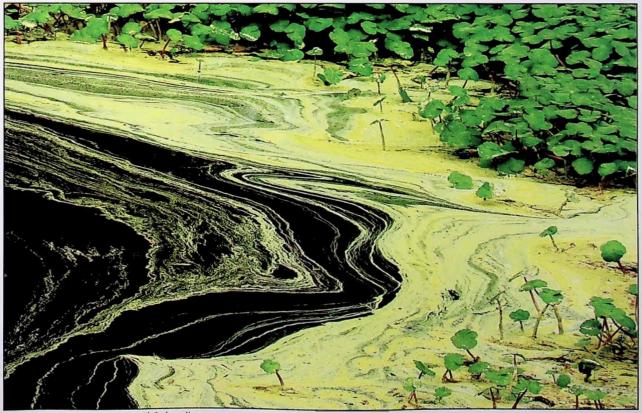
Callie Evans, Beaverdam / Elephant ear leaf Pentax Optio WG-1 digital camera, ISO 80, 1/160, f/4.6



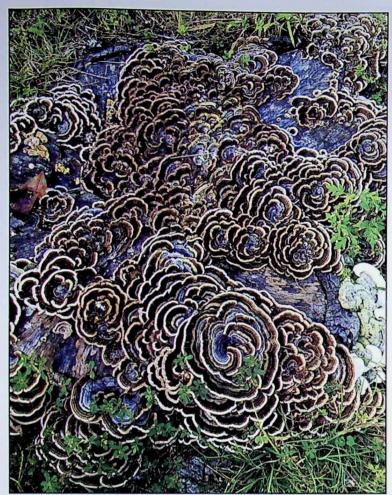
Mary Prochnow, Reston / Water droplets caught in a spider web Nikon D500 DSLR camera, 85mm f/3.5 lens, ISO 100, 1/100, f/18.0



Liam McGranaghan, Berryville / Phosphorescent mushrooms Nikon D80 DSLR camera, 24-70mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 1600, 1/775, f/10.0



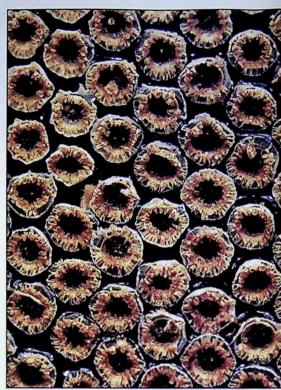
Suzanne Wright, West Point / Oak pollen Nikon CoolPix P900 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/250. f/4.5



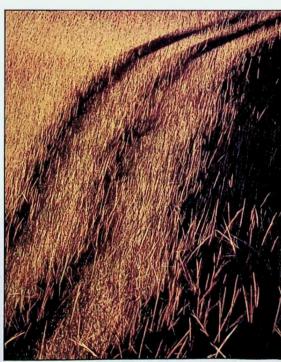
Denise Revercomb, Roanoke / Turkey tail mushroom Apple iPhone 11, no file settings available



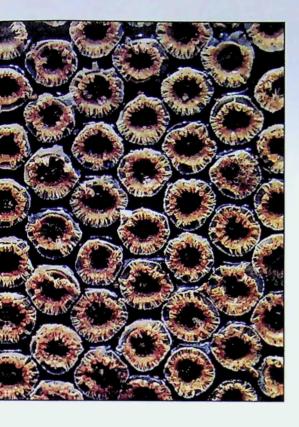
Serafima Riehl, Floyd / Water drop on leaf Samsung S21, no file settings available



Matthew Huntley, Fredericksburg / Assassin bug eggs Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Laowa 25mm f/2.8 5X Ultra macro lens, ISO 200, 1/50, f/8.0

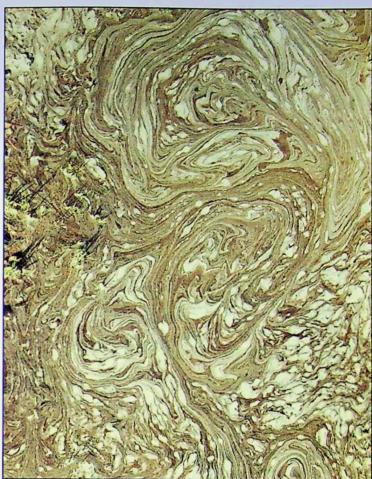


Sue Mangan, Norfolk / Marsh grass Olympus OM-D E-M5 Mark III Micro Four Thirds mirrorless camera, no lens mentioned, ISO 500, 1/250, f/10.0





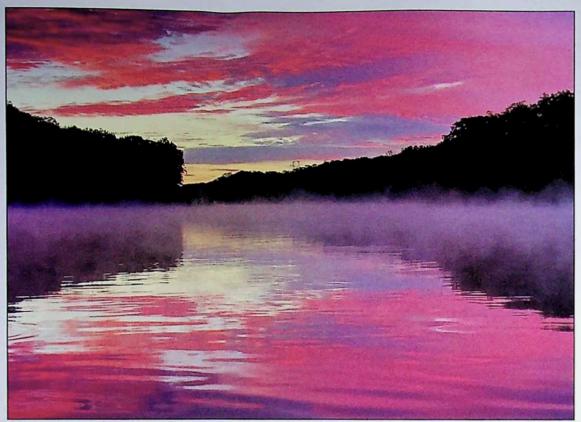
Kennneth Cohen, Virginia Beach / Tent caterpillars Nikon D500, 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1000, 1/320, f/5.6



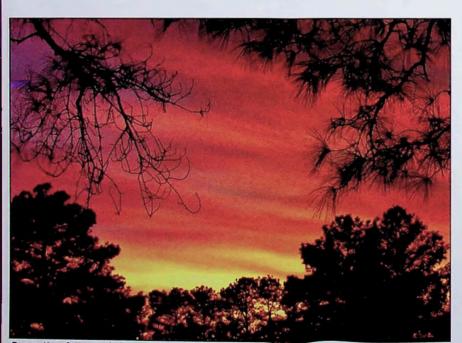
Elizabeth Fedorko, Falls Church / Oak pollen on water Apple Phone 6, ISO 32, 1/2000, f/22.0



Mary Catherine Miguez, Norfolk / Sand along the beach Apple iPhone 13, ISO 50, 1/1200, f/1.5



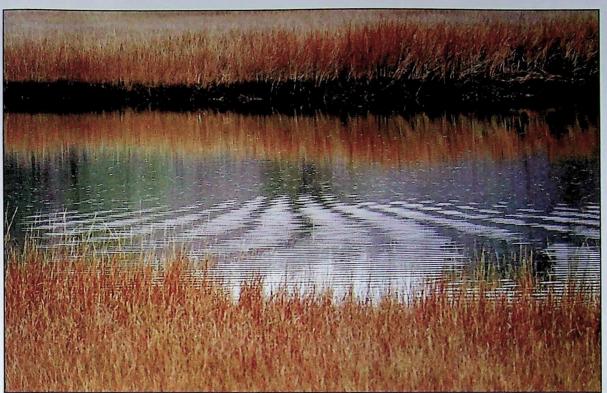
Lee Green, Lorton / Sunrise seen from Occoquan River Apple iPhone SE, ISO 80, 1/60, f/1.8



Peggy Krapf, Toano / Winter sunset Canon PowerShot SX170 IS digital camera, ISO 100, 1/60, f/4.5



David Boyd, Fredericksburg / Green leafhopper Canon R5 mirrorless camera, RF100mm f/2.8 Macro lens, Canon MT-24 Macro flash, ISO 400, 1/200, f/16



David Malmquist, Williamsburg / Tidal creek Sony Cyber-Shot DSC-RX10 IV digital camera, 24-600mm f/2.4-4.0 lens, ISO 250, 1/250, f/4.0



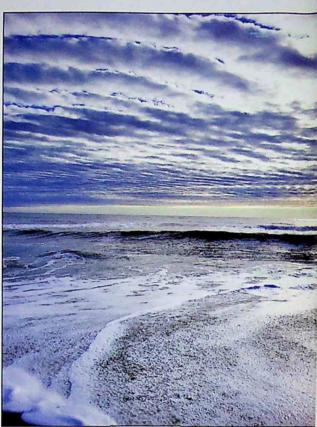
Suzanne Wright, West Point / Flowers on the water Nikon CoolPix P900 digital camera, ISO 400, 1/200, f/5.6



Sarah Campbell, Abingdon / Reflections Nikon D3500 DSLR camera, 70-300mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 560, 1/320, f/5.3



Donnie Goodrich, Williamsburg / Dewy spiderweb Canon EOD R6 mirrorless camera, RF100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 lens, ISO 2000, 1/800, f/11.0



Patricia Hubbard, Accomac / Assateague Island Samsung SM-G781U, ISO 40, 1/7000, f/1.8



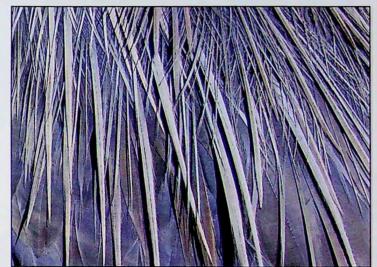
**Leo Meire**, Richmond / Ice bubbles Olympus E-Mix digital camera, 12-100mm f/4.0 lens, ISO 200, 1/100, f/5.6



Donna Stokes, Waynesboro / Tree branches form the infinity symbol or a pair of glasses depending how you see it Canon EOS 70D DSLR camera, EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 400, 1/500, f/11.0

Never stop looking, no matter where you are, everywhere there are good photographs.

– Art Wolfe



Laura Koubsky, Virginia Beach / Great blue heron feathers Canon EOS R6 mirrorless camera, RF800mm f/11 IS lens, ISO 640, 1/800, f/11.0



Brittany Bajo-Walker, Roanoke / Freshwater mussel Olympus TG-6 underwater camera, 25-100mm, f/4.9 lens, ISO 1600, 1/60, f/4.9



Sandy Spicknall, Richmond / Snowflake Canon EOS 7D DSLR camera, EF100mm f/2.8L Macro IS lens, ISO 3200, 1/200, f/7.1

**Trail Cameras** — Images captured on trail cameras that reveal the secret lives of our native wildlife.



Donna Eberle, Ashburn / Red fox by a Christmas tree set out for the animals Wyze Cam V3 digital camera, no file settings available



Dan Camden, Willis / Gray fox with a gray squirrel Spypoint digital camera, no file settings available



Mike Leonard, Fredericksburg / Coyote Stealth Cam STC-P12 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/420, f/3.0



Alan Downie, Roanoke / Downy woodpecker drinks from a birdbath Campark T45A digital camera, ISO 184, 1/35, f/2.8



Allen Easterly, Basye / Fisher Prometheus BTC4P digital camera, ISO 100, 1/40, f/2.4



Drew Patterson, Mechanicsville / Coyote and white-tailed deer Browning Strike Force Apex BTC-5HD-APX digital camera, no file settings available



Patti Black, Goode / Red fox with prey GardePro E8 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/1400, f/1.6



Jim Brown, Damascus / Black bear grilling out Rut Outdoor Trail camera RO-801A, no settings available



Barbara Parker, Dumfries / White-tailed buck eating birdseed Foscam SD2X 18X Optical Zoom 1080P HD Outdoor PTZ Security Camera, no settings available



Adrian Shank, Dayton / Wild turkey Browning Spec Ops Edge trail camera, no settings available



Allen Easterly, Basye/ White-tailed doe and fawn Browning BTC-5 digital camera, ISO 400, 1/100, f/2.4



Norma Wood, Chase City / Black bear and cubs Wildgame WR16ix-19122535 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/120, f/3.2



Derek Langway, Stafford / River otters PRIMOS PS655 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/850, f/2.8



Josiah Donaldson, Bumpass / White-tailed deer WOSODA digital camera, ISO 100, 1/500, f/3.2



Deborah A. Clay, Stony Creek / Black bear Browning Strike Force trail camera, no settings available



Linda Alexander, Stafford / White-tailed doe Cuddleback trail camera, no settings available



Steve George, Chesapeake / A bobcat stalks a dove Meidase Trail camera, no settings available



Thomas Welch, Glen Allen / Black bear Cuddleback trail camera, no settings available



David Boyd, Fredericksburg / Raccoons Bushnell Trophy Cam, no settings available

## **PHOTOGRAPHER INDEX**

PHOTOGRAPHER INC	DEX	Brown, Jim	52	Eshleman, Robin	30
Photographer	Page	Brown, Joseph	7	Evans, Callie	28, 42
		Camden, Dan	50	Fahey, Michael	14
Acevedo, Mar	29, 31	Campbell, Sarah	27, 48	Fedorko, Elizabeth	45
Alam, Simon	15	Carrier, Daniel	32	Fulcher, Ann	2, 8
Alexander, John	30	Clay, Deborah A.	53	Garrett, George	17, 20
Alexander, Linda	54	Cline, Ann	10	George, Steve	54
Amir, Mohammad	9	Cohen, Betty Sue	21	Goodrich, Donnie	24, 48
Annis, Carol	7, 10, 40	Cohen, Kenneth	45	Green, Lee	46
Ashley, Jennifer	25	Coker, Maeve	33	Hamilton, Cindy	27
Ashley, Linda	33	Conley, Pam	20	Haney, Sydney	33, 34
Aylor, Stacy	22	Cowan, Chris	30	Heiser, Trina	29
Bajo-Walker, Adam	34	Crawley, Jason	28	Hickman, David	38
Bajo-Walker, Brittany	35, 49	Croonenberghs, Grace	40	Hill, Craig	31
Bakchinov, Denis	36, 37	Davinhill, Una	10	Hinton, Jacob	28
Beck, David	26	Davis, Patricia	6	Hockett, Jason	27
Belsaas, Erika Rebecca	16	Day, Henry	6, 37	Hostert, Tim	19
Black, Patti	51	Dlugonski, Mark	11	Houston, Barbara	5, 15
Bond, Luana	28	Donaldson, Josiah	53	Hubbard, Patricia	48
Boyd, David	46, 54	Downie, Alan	51	Hundley, Michael	Cover, 12
Bradshaw, Jason	12, 22	Draper, Bill	15	Hunter, Kathi	12, 36
Brigida, Danielle	25, 30	Easterly, Allen	51, 52	Huntley, Matthew	36, 44
Brito, Erik	21, 27	Eberle, Donna	50	Hutchinson, Darren	15
Brown, Betsy	11	Episcopo, Edward	17, 36	Jurkuta, Ted	22

You

## 2025 Virginia Wildlife Calendar Cover!

**NEW THIS YEAR!** We'll choose the photo to use on the cover of the 2025 Virginia Wildlife Calendar from the photos submitted to the 2024 *Virginia Wildlife* Photography Showcase Issue! The Virginia Wildlife Calendar has become iconic and is sold and distributed to thousands in Virginia and across the United States. We source calendar photos from professional wildlife photographers, but we wanted to give *Virginia Wildlife* Photography Showcase photographers the chance to be included as well.



There is no separate category for the calendar cover; DWR will select the winning image from entrants to the usual categories for the Photography Showcase Issue, and all entry rules and directions (virginiawildlife.gov/virginia-wildlife/photo-showcase-entry/) apply.

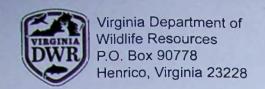
Here are some hints from DWR Art Director Lynda Richardson on what type of image will work on the calendar cover.

- The calendar dimensions are 10.125" x 14", horizontal format, but I will need at least an inch all the way around the image so I can adjust it easily. For this reason, please do not crop your image too tightly. The image must have 3 to 4 inches of "clean" space at the bottom so the logo, Virginia Wildlife 2025 Calendar, is easily readable.
- Please make sure your file is at least 300ppi and can be made into the above-mentioned size without any resulting pixelation. The image must be sharp to begin with, so please do not over-sharpen, as this will disqualify the image. Also, do not over-saturate the color of the image.
- We will be looking for fauna for our cover. Since an elk is featured on the 2024 cover, we will not have one on the 2025 cover. We are looking for colorful, eye-catching, and dynamic images, so give us your best shot! Good luck!

## TO ENTER THE 2024 VIRGINIA WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWCASE

See rules and instructions at: virginiawildlife.gov/virginia-wildlife/photo-showcase-entry/

Kennedy, Inamay	39	O'Donnell, Laurie	8	Smith, Michael	35
Kitts, Garland	36	Olson, Stephen	13	Spicknall, Sandy	49
Koubsky, Laura	17, 49	Owen, Constance	26	Starr, Elaine	18, 32
Krapf, Peggy	46	Parker, Barbara	52	Stokes, Donna	49
Kray, Dorothy	22	Patterson, Drew	51	Streufert, Randy	9, 18
Langway, Derek	53	Perry, Rebecca	6, 37	Sun, Ping	11, 25
Leonard, Mike	51	Pfeiffer, Luca	13	Swift, Matt	32
Li, Noah	35	Powell, Gary	37	Tipton, Larry D.	31
Mains, Marc	9	Prevost, Caroline	10	Tomasek, James	7
Malmquist, David	47	Pritchett, Eric	26	Van Dyke, Jordan	22
Mangan, Sue	44	Prochnow, Mary	7, 9, 33, 42	Walker, Cindy	10
May, Patricia	28	Rector, Joshua	Back cover	Watkins, Lisa	9
McCarthy, Aidan	38	Revercomb, Denise	44	Welch, Thomas	54
McGranaghan, Liam	43	Riebe, Christine	11	White, Nat	41
Meire, Leo	30, 48	Riehl, Serafima	44	Whiting, Dan	14, 25
Melson, Allen	12	Roberts, Mike	11	Wibbens, Jean	33
Miguez, Mary Catherine	34, 45	Rohn, Reuben	19	Wick, Jamie	23
Miller, Pamela	16	Roundtrey, Parks	13, 24	Womacks, Flo	27
Mindlin, Alan	24	Saffir, Barbara	29, 38, 41	Wood, Norma	53
Mitchell, Glen	18	Sams, Brett	8, 17	Woodell, Wendy	14
Molnar, Tibor	35, 37, 39	Seney, Clifton	16	Wright, Suzanne	30, 43, 47
Moore, Terry	23	Shank, Adrian	52	Wu, Howard	7
Morgan, James	20	Shank, Cheryl	34, 41	Wulfekuhle-Zaweski, Jamie	34
Niven, Bill	39	Smith III, John	10	Zirkle, Jennifer	23



While You Were	Phone #:	Telephoned  Wants to see you  Returned your call  Was here to see you	Message:	Pest-il" 7860 63M 1993 Taken by:	2000
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